

126



gp 3616 \$  
#9  
PATENT 4/14/98  
RECEIVED  
APR -9 AM 9:19  
GROUP 3100

New Attorney Docket No.: 97394225

In re Application of:  
JOHN F. STUFFLEBEAM  
THOMAS A. OLSON  
LISLE J. DUNHAM  
DONALD T. JOHNSON

Group Art Unit: 3616  
Examiner: VICTOR BATSON

Serial No.: 08/700,216

Filing Date: August 20, 1996

For: VACUUM SEED METERING  
MECHANISM

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

"Express Mail" mailing label number EE492486091US

Date of deposit: March 25, 1998

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the  
United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to  
Addressee" under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is  
addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.  
20231

Bonita J. Little

(typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

*Bonita J. Little*  
(signature of person mailing paper or fee)

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C., 20231

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the  
attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This  
Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in 37 C.F.R.  
§ 1.97(b), but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a  
final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance. In accordance with 37 C.F.R.  
§ 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement therefore is accompanied by a fee  
of \$240.00 as specified by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Each of the listed documents was cited by the U.S. Patent and  
Trademark Office in one or more commonly-assigned patent applications that the

03/27/1998 NCAERO 00000062 08700216  
01 FC:126 240.00 OP

Examiner may consider to be related to the present application. Furthermore, Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the two additional commonly-assigned applications, Serial Nos. 08/700,217 and 08/700,225, that have been relied upon by the Examiner, as well as the patent references that have been made of record therein.

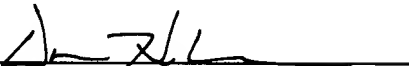
Copies of the listed documents are attached. A concise statement of relevance for each non-English language patent reference also is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this statement,  
please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Daniel J. Hulseberg  
Reg. No. 36,554

MAYER, BROWN & PLATT  
P.O. Box 2828  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-2828  
312/701-8606

Dated: March 25, 1998